AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 49, line 27 through page 50, line 2 of the specification with the following:

-- The Ag5s and hybrid proteins expressed in yeast strain KM71 contained a secretory signal peptide. The signal peptide was linked to the expressed protein via a peptide of KR or KREAEAEF sequence (SEQ ID NO: 99). These two types of proteins were designated as the KR- and EA-series, respectively. Upon secretion from the yeast cells, the signal peptide was cleaved from the secreted protein at the KR sequence (Kex 2 protease site) or the two EA sequences (Ste 13 dipeptidyl amino peptidase sites) (Invitrogen Manual). --

Please replace the paragraphs at page 50, line 20 through page 51, line 2 of the specification with the following:

-- Results of mass spectrometric analysis of Ag 5s and hybrids are given in Table 2. EA-series Ag 5s were cleaved efficiently at the Kex 2 site but showed variable cleavages at the two Ste 13 sites. Recombinant EA-series proteins, therefore, had amino-terminal sequences of EAEAEF (SEQ ID NO: 89) and EAEF (SEQ ID NO: 90), where the EF sequence was encoded by the Eco R I site used to insert cDNA into the vector. These data were similar to results reported previously (Monsalve *et al.*, 1999, Protein Expr. Purif. 16:410).

The EAEAEF sequence (SEQ ID NO: 89) of recombinant Ves v 5 is known to function as a strong hapten (Monsalve *et al.*, 1999, Protein Expr. Purif. 16:410). Therefore, Ag 5s were also expressed as KR-series hybrids. Cleavage of KR-series proteins at the Kex 2 site yielded recombinant proteins with the N-terminal sequence of the natural proteins. Mass spectrometry analysis of the KR-series proteins Ves v5, Pol a 5, and hybrids KR-PV1-24 and KR-PV1-46 showed

that they were cleaved, with varied efficiencies, at the Kex2 site, and at residues 2, 7, and 9 upstream of the Kex2 site. (Table 2.) The recombinant proteins of the KR-series were usually of slightly lower yields than those of the EA-series. --